

Covid-19 Restart Plan - Draft

Be Kind. Be Calm. And Be Safe. - Dr. Bonnie Henry

Before coming to school

- Parents must assess their child's health daily and should not send their children to school if they are sick they should not be sent to school
- School staff must assess their own health daily and should not come to school if they are sick

Reasons to Self-Isolate

- Any student, staff or other person within the school who has symptoms of COVID-19 OR travelled outside Canada in the last 14 days OR was identified as a close contact of a confirmed case or outbreak must stay home and self-isolate, including children of essential service workers.
- Any student, staff, or other person within the school who has cold, influenza, or COVID-19-like symptoms should seek assessment by a health-care provider and self-isolate while they await the result

Learning Groups

Group 1

K to 3
Deb Dubinsky
Kyoko Connie
Kristin Kipkie
Richelle Johnson
Kerry Hiechert
EA 3

Group 2

4 to 7
Donna Hicks
Katrina Sumrall
Mark Lada
EA 4

Group 3

8 to 12
Hannah Boomer
Scott Kipkie
Margot Baker
Barb Mark

- Variance is approved for small crossover of teaching and support staff who teach in both elementary and secondary settings. Crossover staff will maintain physical distancing where possible in elementary and be required to physically distance in secondary settings.
- Within the cohort minimized physical contact should be encouraged, but a two-metre physical distance does not need to be maintained
- Consistent seating arrangements are encouraged within cohorts where practical. This can assist public health should contact tracing need to occur.

Elementary students:

When interacting with peers outside of their learning group, students should:

- minimize physical contact when outdoors;

- maintain physical distance (2m) when indoors. If a student is unable to physically distance, the student should socialize within their learning group or where they can be supported to physically distance.

Middle/secondary students:

- When interacting with peers outside of their learning group, students should maintain physical distance (2m).
- Middle and secondary school students capable of consistently maintaining physical distance, when it is required, should be expected to do so. If a student is unable to physically distance, the student should socialize within their learning group or where they can be supported to physically distance.

Use of PPE

- PPE, such as masks and gloves, is not needed for most staff beyond that used as part of routine practices for the hazards normally encountered in their regular course of work.
- Masks will be required for staff, middle and secondary students in high traffic areas such as buses and in common areas such as hallways, or anytime outside of their learning group whenever physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- Non-medical masks are recommended in situations where a person cannot maintain physical distance for extended periods of time and is in close proximity to a person outside of their regular contacts. This includes riding the bus to school where a student may be sitting next to a person outside of their cohort or household.
- Wearing a non-medical mask or face covering within schools is a personal choice for students and adults. Non-medical masks or face coverings may be useful when physical distance cannot be consistently maintained and the person is interacting with people outside of their cohort for extended periods of time (e.g. middle and secondary students on a school bus, etc.). It is important to treat people wearing masks with respect.
- Those that choose to wear non-medical masks must still seek to maintain physical distance from people outside of their cohort. There must be no crowding, gathering or congregating of people from different cohorts, even if non-medical masks are worn.

Cleaning

- Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned twice a day, these include: Doorknobs, light switches, hand railings, faucet handles, toilet handles, tables, desks and chairs used by multiple students, water fountains.
- Water fountains can continue to be used, as access to water should not be restricted. Students and staff should be encouraged to use personal water bottles. If using water fountains, students and staff should practice hand hygiene before and after use, and should not place their mouth on the fountain. Water fountains should be cleaned as a frequently touched item.

- Shared learning items and manipulatives are discouraged when possible, however their use is likely inevitable. Frequent handwashing, and the use of disinfectant wipes can be used to increase safety. *These are not the responsibility of the custodian.*
- Staff and students can share the use of appliances and other objects, but treat items like microwaves, refrigerators, coffee pots, photocopiers or laminators as frequently touched surfaces

Bussing

- Students will be assigned a seat and expected to sit in it for the duration of the school year
- Parents are encouraged to transport their children to school when possible, however the regular bus run will be occurring for those who need it.
- Masks are encouraged for students in middle and secondary schools.
- Students should sanitize their hands when they get on the bus.

Arrival and Break Times

Entrances

Bus arrives at 845 -- Doors Open at 845

Group 1 - Rear Door and Classroom Doors

Group 2 - 4 Square Door and Classroom Doors

Group 3 - Main Entrance

Recess

Group 1 - 1010-1040 or 1020 to 1050 (no bell)

Group 2 - 1010 to 1040 or 1020 to 1050 (no bell)

Group 3 - 1050 to 11

* Students are not allowed to go to the store during recess

Fire Drills and Emergency Evacuations

- In the case of an evacuation drill, or an emergency situation, the emergency evacuation plan will supersede the covid entrance/exit requirements
- At the muster points students should maintain physical distance if safe to do so

Playgrounds

- There is no current evidence of COVID-19 transmission in playground environments. Playgrounds are a safe environment.
- The following measures should be taken when using playgrounds:
 - Ensure appropriate hand hygiene practices before and after outdoor play
 - Attempt to minimize direct contact between students

Lunch Schedule and Considerations

- Students are expected to eat their lunch in their classroom or outside, and then go outside after they have eaten
- When outside students in different learning groups can interact, but they are encouraged to keep their physical distance and minimize physical contact
- Students in grade 8 to 12 may sit in the hallway in their designated area, or in the Mac Lab, however they are encouraged to go outside

Food Program

- If food is prepared within or outside a school for consumption by people other than those that prepared it (e.g., meal program, cafeteria), it is expected that the WorkSafe BC Restaurants, cafes, pubs, and nightclubs: Protocols for returning to operation are implemented as appropriate and as relevant to the school setting, in addition to normally implemented food safety measures and requirements (e.g. FOODSAFE trained staff, a food safety plan, etc.). Some of the guidance within may not be relevant to a school's food services. For example, the July 23, 2020 Order of the Provincial Health Officer Restaurants, Coffee Shops, Cafes, Cafeterias and Licensed Premises, Including Pubs, Bars, Lounges, Nightclubs and Tasting Rooms does not apply to schools. As such, the restriction of six patrons at a table does not apply. Food Safety Legislation and the Guidelines for Food and Beverage Sales in B.C. Schools continue to apply as relevant. Schools should not allow homemade food items to be made available to other students at this time (e.g.. birthday treats, bake sale items).
- Schools can continue to include food preparation as part of learning programs for students
- Lunches will be delivered for students in K to 7

Water Fountains

- We are encouraging all students to bring a water bottle, however water fountains will be accessible as per BCCDC guidelines
- They will be treated as high touch areas

Food Safety

- In the case of food and culinary programs, where food is prepared as part of learning and is consumed by the students who prepared it, the following health and safety measures should apply:
 - Continue to follow normal food safety measures and requirements
 - Implement the cleaning and disinfection as required

Lockers

- Students can continue to use their lockers, as it is better for personal items to be stored in a locker than to be stored in classrooms or carried throughout the school.
- Students should try to only use their lockers when necessary (beginning of the day and end of the day) and should carry as much of their supplies as possible
- Grade 8 to 12 lockers will be closest to the social studies room

- Grade 6/7 lockers will be beside the science room and grade 6/7 classroom

Moving in the Hallways

- During class changes and at the start and end of the day students in grade 6 to 12 should wear their masks in the hallways if other students that are not in their learning group are present.
- *The school will be split into three sections, one for each group, and students should minimize their time in sections that are not theirs*
 - *Grades 4/5 & 6/7 will use the bathrooms in the elementary wing*

Handwashing

- All teachers will do a demonstration and orientation for all students
 - Grades K to 3 should do frequent tutorials on handwashing about 5-7 times in the first two weeks
 - Grades 4 to 7 should do 2-3 handwashing tutorials in the first two weeks
 - Grades 8 to 12 students should be oriented at least once in each class
- Rigorous hand washing with plain soap and water is the most effective way to reduce the spread of illness. Both students and staff can pick up and spread germs from objects, surfaces, food and people. Everyone should practice diligent hand hygiene. Parents and staff can teach and reinforce these practices among students.
- Facilitate regular opportunities for staff and students to practice hand hygiene.
- Staff should assist younger students with hand hygiene as needed.
- Wash hands with plain soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Antibacterial soap is not needed for COVID-19.
 - Temperature does not change the effectiveness of washing hands with plain soap and water, though warm water is preferred for personal comfort.
- If sinks are not available (e.g., students and staff are outdoors), use alcohol-based hand rub containing at least 60% alcohol..
- If hands are visibly soiled, alcohol-based hand rub may not be effective at eliminating microbes. Soap and water are preferred when hands are dirty

Sick Child or Staff Member at School

If individuals begin to experience symptoms while attending work or school, schools should:

1. Promptly separate the student or staff with symptoms in an area separate from others, with adequate ventilation until they can go home.
 1. This room should not be one that is commonly used for other purposes (i.e., the lunchroom). It should not be a space through which others regularly pass. It is not necessary for this room to have a separate air supply (HVAC) system.
 2. Ill persons should be placed in well-ventilated areas and where minimum physical distancing can be maintained between the ill person and others.
2. Provide a mask to the person experiencing symptoms to wear if they can tolerate it.
3. Limit the number of staff designated to care for ill persons until they can be sent home.
 1. These caregivers should not be at increased risk of viral infection complications (i.e., pregnant women or persons that have a chronic illness), and they should be familiar with infection control recommendations to prevent the spread of the virus.

4. Contact parent/care giver, or in the case of staff, a family member if appropriate, to make arrangements to have the staff or student picked up as soon as is feasible.
 1. Some students or staff may not be able to be picked up immediately. As such it will be important to consider alternate or additional spaces for any others who may start to experience symptoms while attending work or school.
5. Notify custodial staff that the isolation room has been used.
 1. Custodial staff will conduct enhanced cleaning of this room and other rooms where the staff or student was present while symptomatic.
6. Post signage on the door of the isolation room 'for cleaning' until the custodian is able to clean the room.

If an individual is identified as a close contact of a confirmed case or outbreak, they are also required to stay home and self-isolate.

Visiting Adult Protocol

- All non-regular adults need to log their presence in the school and confirm they have assessed their health
- All non-SD10 employees and all casual SD10 employees must report to the office and speak with an administrator before being allowed to access the school
- Parents will not be allowed to enter the school unless they have an appointment, or there is an emergency
- Specialists and other adults who infrequently but regularly come to the school will be trained in all COVID procedures by an administrator and be asked to limit their movement throughout the school

Sharing of items

- The practice of sharing items (pens, paper, food, phones, cloth towels, etc.) is discouraged.
- The practice of multi-user computer workstations is discouraged. If workstations must be shared, they must be first disinfected by the next user using the workstation.
- With regards to the sharing of paper and paper products, the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) has stated:

'Like other respiratory viruses, there is no evidence that the COVID-19 virus is transmitted via textbooks, paper, or other paper products. As such, there is no need to limit the distribution of books or paper based educational resources to students due to concerns about virus transmission.'

Shared Areas

- Shared spaces will be cleaned from 11 to 1, and be able to be accessed on a rotational basis

School Gatherings

- School Gatherings School gatherings should occur within the cohort.

- Gatherings should not exceed the maximum cohort size in the setting, plus the minimum number of additional people required (e.g. school staff, visitors, etc.) to meet the gathering's purpose and intended outcome.
 - Additional people should be minimized as much as is practical to do so.
- These gatherings should happen minimally. • Schools should seek virtual alternatives for larger gatherings and assemblies.

Field Trips

- When planning field trips, staff should follow existing policies and procedures as well as the COVID-19 health and safety guidelines.
- Additional measures specific to field trips should be taken, including:
- Field trip locations must provide supervisors with their COVID-19 operating plan and ensure it does not conflict with the school's plan. The field trip supervisor should then share the plan with parents and school administration.
- Use of parent volunteers for driving groups of students is not permitted during stages 2 to 4.
- Schools must ensure that volunteers providing supervision are trained in and strictly adhere to physical distancing and other health and safety guidelines.
- Ensure field trip numbers align with the PHO guidance on mass gatherings (i.e. 50 people).
- Field trips to outdoor locations are preferable.
- Conduct a risk assessment considering the field trip location - science exploration vs. exploring at the beach.
- No overnight field trips should occur.
- International Field Trips - cancelled until further notice.

Printing

- Students are not allowed to go behind the main office desk
- Printing should be done in groups with one student coming to collect the printing

Non-school Use

- Use by community groups will be dependent on how it impacts school operations, as well as the ability to ensure that proper cleaning is conducted after use.

Additional Resources

This plan was developed off the following documents

<https://sd10.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/SD-10-Stage-2-Restart-Plan-August-2020.pdf>

http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID_public_guidance/Guidance-k-12-schools.pdf

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/safe-caring-orderly/k-12-covid-19-health-safety-guidelines.pdf>